REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 8, 12-16, 18, 19, and 26-37 are pending.

In the Final Office Action, claim 1 and its dependent claims were rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, on grounds that the specification fails to provide a written description of the following features: "the first index value identifying a type of the multimedia message *without identifying any attachments to the multimedia message*." These (italicized) features have been deleted from claim 1. Withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 8, 12-16, 18, 19, and 26-32 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) based on a Barrus-Takahashi-Shaw combination. Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection for the following reasons. Claim 8 will be discussed first.

The Barrus patent discloses a method which allows a user to remotely access multimedia messages. The method is performed using an object-indexing unit 306, which assigns an index number to objects of a multimedia message. For example, a first number is assigned to an object if the object is an audio message. Another number is assigned if the object is a document, and so on. (See column 8, lines12-52 and column 18, line 23 - column 19, line 27, with reference to Figures 11A and 11B). See also the end of claim 1 of the Barrus patent which also defines the indices assigned by the object-indexing unit.

The Barrus patent, however, does not teach or suggest the features added by amendment to claim 8. As amended, claim 8 recites "transmitting header information of a multimedia message from a user agent to a server, the multimedia message including first information and second information, the first information corresponding to the header information and the

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second information corresponding contents of the multimedia message, said contents including at least one of text or data, and wherein said transmitting includes transmitting the header information without the second information of the multimedia message." (See, for example, Paragraphs [21], [27], [29], [31] and [32] for support).

These features are not taught or suggested by the Barrus patent. More specifically, in Barrus, the indices are used to indicate the type of the object, e.g., image, document, audio message, etc., attached to a message. However, claim 8 recites that the multimedia message including first information and second information, the <u>first information corresponding to the header information</u> and the <u>second information corresponding contents of the multimedia message</u>. Claim 8 further recites that the contents includes at least one of text or data, and that said transmitting includes <u>transmitting the header information without the second information of the multimedia message</u>. Barrus does not teach or suggest these features. Instead, Barrus transmits the entire message including header information and content information and any attachments (objects) thereto regardless of the values of its indices.

Morover, the indices of Barrus provide an indication of what action is to be performed regarding the objects attached to the message, e.g., play the message, store the message, etc. The Barrus indices are not used so that only the header of a message is to be transmitted without content information as recited in claim 8. Through these features, one or more embodiments of the invention may cut down on the amount of information that is transmitted (based on the omission of the "second information" recited in claim 8), thereby preventing a waste of radio resources.

The Takahashi and Shaw references do not teach or suggest the features of claim 8 missing from the Barrus patent.

Based on these differences, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable over the cited combination. Furtherance of claim 8 and its dependent claims to allowance is requested.

Claim 26 has been amended to recite that "the multimedia message includes first information and second information, the first information corresponds to header information and includes the index value and the second information includes contents of the multimedia message, said contents including at least one of text or data, and said transmitting includes transmitting the header information without the second information of the multimedia message when the index value corresponds to the second value." (See, for example, Paragraphs [21], [27], [29], [31] and [32] for support).

These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. Furtherance of claim 26 and its dependent claims to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 33 recites <u>setting an index value to a first value or a second value and</u> transmitting:

(a)   the multimedia message including <u>the index value set to the first value, the index value set to the first value transmitted in a header</u> of the multimedia message, wherein the index value set to the <u>first value indicates that the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a changed multimedia message from a previously sent multimedia message</u>, and

(b)   <u>only</u> a header of a multimedia message <u>when the index value is set to the second value, wherein the index value set to the second value</u> indicates that the multimedia message was

a previously sent multimedia message which has not changed. (See, for example, Paragraphs [21], [27], [29], [31] and [32] for support).

These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. Furtherance of claim 33 and its dependent claims to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Finally, claim 1 has been amended to recite receiving information including a second index value from the user agent, "wherein the second index value is set to a first value that indicates whether a multimedia message to be forwarded is a new multimedia message or a changed multimedia message or is set to a second value that indicates that the multimedia message is a previously sent multimedia message.

In addition, claim 1 recites that "the information including the second index value corresponds to a multimedia message includes first information and second information, the first information corresponds to header information and includes the second index value and the second information includes contents of the multimedia message, said contents including at least one of text or data, and said receiving includes receiving the header information without the second information of the multimedia message when the second index value corresponds to the second value." (See, for example, Paragraphs [21], [27], [29], [31] and [32] for support).
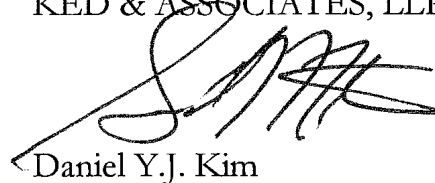
These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. Furtherance of claim 1 and its dependent claims to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

The rejections of claims 3, 12, and 33-38 are traversed on grounds that the secondary references do not teach or suggest the features in the independent claims missing from the Barrus, Takahashi, and Shaw references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

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